

AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT
INCORPORATED

COLLEGE DE FRANCE

Cabinet d'Egyptologie

Inventaire B 10.495

479 Huntington Avenue
Boston 15, Massachusetts
December, 1957

NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWENTY-SIX

This Newsletter, which contains the report of the Annual Meeting, follows a slightly different pattern from those of the past. It begins with the address of the President of the Center made at that meeting, which (it is hoped) all members will read attentively, continues with letters from the Director in Cairo and other archaeological news, and concludes with the various reports presented to the members at the Annual Meeting.

Report of the President

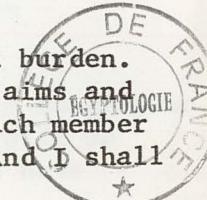
I am happy to report that the Center is again functioning in Cairo. One of the two Fellows, Mr. Edward F. Wente, who so admirably served the Center as its representative during last year's emergency, and who will now act as Director in Cairo, arrived in Egypt in mid-September; the other, Mr. John A. Williams, who will assist Mr. Wente as Co-Director, is en route, if he has not already arrived. We have received Mr. Wente's first communication, which will be incorporated into the first Newsletter of the present season, together with a report of this meeting.

Unless conditions in the Near East greatly change, the future of the Center in Cairo seems to be assured for the coming three seasons, the term of the grant for fellowships so generously made to the Center by the Bollingen Foundation. Now, however, is the time to look ahead. It is urgently necessary to provide for the salary of a Director in Cairo when that grant shall have expired. Moreover, we should not permit ourselves to forget our aim of establishing permanent headquarters for the Center in Cairo and some assistance for the Director in his duties which are by no means light. The membership dues annually paid into the treasury do little more than pay for such routine expenses as services, printing and postage. It is imperative that we look for some benefactor or series of benefactors, who will provide an endowment, so that the Center can continue its useful work.

There can be no doubt that, under able directors of the past, this work has been useful. Not only has the Director in Cairo assisted visiting scholars, students, and interested laymen in establishing contacts and advising as to procedure, but he has also carried on extensive correspondence with scholars and institutions in the United States, informing them where they can obtain publications and photographs or furnishing data concerning monuments and objects in the Egyptian collections. He has conducted tours to important sites for local members of the Center and their guests, has even, on occasion, acted as cicerone to individuals with little time to spend in Cairo. Above all, he has furnished the lively archaeological news for all members contained in the Newsletters. This he has done in addition to (and sometimes at the expense of) his own research. I cannot pay too high a tribute to the devotion of the persons who have taken on the Directorship of the Center in Cairo, while pursuing their studies there.

I also wish to thank the members of the Center in this country who have volunteered their services as officers of our organization and members of the Executive Committee. All of them are busy men and women with many commitments, and the added burden of work for the Center laid on their shoulders has been by no means inconsiderable.

I should like to appeal to the membership at large to assume a share of that burden. With the report of this meeting, each member will receive a folder outlining the aims and needs of the Center and including an application for membership. I trust that each member may be able to interest at least one other person in joining our organization. And I shall



recommend very strongly to the Trustees, who will meet after the conclusion of this General Meeting, that they form a committee to look into the matter of larger financial support.

In conclusion, I should like to quote from the last paragraph of the folder I have just mentioned:

"The Trustees of the Center believe that an institution such as the Center, entirely divorced from politics or sectarianism and devoted solely to scholarly aims, is one of the best means of promoting scholarship at home and adding to American prestige abroad; they also believe that it can be an important factor in bringing about a better understanding of the United States in the Middle East, and as such can be an instrument of peace".

Edward W. Forbes, President

Letters from Egypt

Cairo, Egypt
October 17, 1957

Dear Members:

Upon arriving in Egypt, after several months at home, I was delighted to find my friend Gamal Salem back in his office at the Cairo Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, newly returned from the United States and Europe. From my conversation with him, I gather that the experience he acquired in America will be of great help to him here in Egypt. Certainly those working at the Museum will often, as they have in the past, avail themselves of his generous assistance.

Only a few days ago, the long-awaited announcement was made of the new Director of the Department of Antiquities. Abdel Fatah Helmy, who served as Acting-Director during the summer, is to fill the post permanently. Moharrem Kamal, who was formerly Curator-in-Chief at the Museum, has been appointed as Sub-Director.

During the summer months, there has been a surprising amount of building in Cairo. In addition to the luxurious new Shepherd's Hotel, the Hilton Hotel, and the Arab League building, all located along the Nile not far from the Museum, a structure of several stories is being erected just behind the Anglican Cathedral, north of the Museum. This building, which may be completed by the end of the year, will house the Department of Antiquities. Whether the Centre de Documentation will also have its quarters there is uncertain. The Centre is at present in the French Institute, but according to an item in the local news the Institute will be returned to the French, though placed under a joint direction.

As for this season's archaeological and epigraphic work, it is difficult at the moment to make predictions: the general feeling seems to be that there will not be a great amount of excavation either by foreigners or Egyptians. Professor Emery has, I understand, applied for permission to return to Saqqara, to investigate further the early dynastic tombs there; he may possibly also work at Buhen, in the Sudan. Pierre Clère, a draughtsman of the French Institute, expects to be doing some drawing in the Upper Egyptian Ptolemaic temples, his work possibly to be sponsored by the Centre de Documentation. And I have just heard that Dr. Ricke of the Swiss Institute will make an architectural survey of the temple at Elephantine.

Professors Hughes and Nims of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute Epigraphic Expedition in Luxor have passed through Cairo on their way south, to begin what will be one of the Expedition's biggest seasons since the war. The Egyptian authorities have

granted permission for several English draughtsmen to join the Expedition at Luxor, as had been originally planned for last season. The program will include further recording of scenes and texts at Medinet Habu and, in co-operation with the Department of Antiquities, the clearing and surveying of the tomb of Kheruef. This important tomb of an 18th Dynasty official was discovered in 1885, reburied, and not rediscovered until 1942. Only one doorway and one wall of the fore-court of the tomb are known, but the fine reliefs of these give promise that the tomb will be well worth clearing.

Although there was some talk last year of work at Giza by the Cairo University and at El Ashmunein by Alexandria University, these ventures will probably not materialize this season on account of shortage of funds. Professor Selim Hassan hopes, however, to continue clearing the Unis causeway toward the east. In connection with this project, it will be necessary to construct a new approach to Saqqara, for the existing road runs directly over the valley temple of Unis and the eastern section of the causeway. According to Zacharia Goneim, who believes that the roofing slabs are several courses too low, the reconstruction of a small bit of the causeway made last year may have to be redone.

Funds available for the general upkeep of monuments are very modest indeed. It seems doubtful, for example, if the badly needed plate glass will be fitted into the frames long installed in the fine mastaba of Ptahhotep at Saqqara. And the plan to utilize the annex chamber in the tomb of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings for exhibiting some of the articles now stored away in the tomb can hardly be realized on the slim budget allotted to Inspector Labib Habachi. It is greatly to be regretted that it has been found necessary to reduce such needed expenditures by the Department of Antiquities.

Labib Habachi, who is one of the busiest of the Egyptian scholars, will have an added function this year in Luxor, where he will start a dragoman's school. Because of his vast knowledge of Upper Egyptian monuments, there could hardly be a better instructor. Future tourists should find Luxor and its environs a much more meaningful collection of monuments due to his teaching.

Mrs. Helen Wall, a member of the Center, has just returned from Europe to continue her work here. Her book on Old Kingdom estates will soon go to press.

On Sunday last, we had the first of our tours to monuments for members of the Center in Cairo and their families. About thirty-five persons participated in a visit to the Giza pyramids. This coming Sunday we shall visit the Zozer complex and the Unis causeway at Saqqara.

As I finish this letter, the rumor comes to me that a ruling is to be passed placing the sale of antiquities in the hands of the Department of Antiquities. By this ruling, dealers will be obliged to hand over their goods to a government store, from which they will be sold, the proceeds returning to the dealers. The government will re-emburse the dealers for antiquities not sold at the end of five years.

In a few days the office of the Research Center for the present season will be in my apartment, No. 29, 17 Sharia Antikhana, Cairo. The telephone number is 45793.

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Wente

Apt. 29
17, Sharia Antikhana
Cairo, Egypt

Dear Members:

Among recent arrivals in Cairo is Dr. Muses, who has returned to Egypt hoping to appeal in the higher courts the charge of having attempted to smuggle antiquities out of Egypt, but was asked to leave the country a few days after his arrival in Cairo. For some reason, however, local newspapers to the contrary, he has not yet departed.

Our Sunday outings for members of the Center and their families and friends have been made to Saqqara, where, among other monuments, the group was generously permitted by Zakaria Goneim to visit the tomb of Meru, the late Old Kingdom tomb with fine painted reliefs of still vivid color, which is not easily accessible to the public. We have made two trips to the Cairo Museum, last Sunday examining objects related to royal funerary practices during the New Kingdom.

Saturday, November 16, marked the inauguration of the German Archaeological Institute. Many notables were present, but few Egyptologists other than Egyptians and Germans were invited. The German Institute plans to direct its attention to the Nile Valley south of the Assouan Dam, which (when the projected new dam is built) will be largely inundated.

As part of the cultural exchange between Egypt and Communist countries, a number of Polish Egyptologists have arrived on the scene. The government is extending to them many courtesies and privileges. At the end of last year's excavation at Benha, the Polish Expedition was permitted to take back to Poland a share of the finds it has made. The Expedition plans to continue the work at Benha as soon as the area becomes less moist.

A portion of the collection belonging to the well-known dealer Nahman was recently sold at auction, with bids running low, though for admittedly uninteresting pieces.

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Wente

* * *

Bibliography from Cairo

One of the reasons for the cessation of excavation by the Department of Antiquities is to use the time and money so gained for publication. It is gratifying to note that a number of long-awaited books have appeared. Among these are two additional fascicules of the Catalogue générale des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire: Pierre Lacau: Stèles de la XVIII^e Dynastie, Tome Premier, Troisième Fascicule, Cairo, 1957. Contains printed texts and descriptions of stelae #34186 - 34189, as well as indices of personal names, royal names, titles, and divinities. This publication was originally termed Stèles du Nouvel Empire, but the title was changed since all the stelae are of XVIIIth Dynasty. Percy E. Newberry: Funerary Statuettes And Model Sarcophagi, Troisième Fasc. (Indices et Planches), Cairo, 1957. Contains indices to kings, royal family, titles, and personal names and includes five plates of hieratic texts from ushebtis.

Other important publications are the following: M. Zakaria Goneim: Excavations at Saqqara, Horus Sekhem-khet, The Unfinished Step Pyramid at Saqqara, Vol. I. Cairo, 1957.

As the author explains in his preface, this publication is a preliminary report of an incompletely excavated of the 3rd Dynasty unfinished step pyramid, which made the headlines a few years ago and which has been the subject of several popular publications

in various languages by the same excavator. Z. Goneim plans to write several subsequent volumes, one of them to include a corpus of 3rd Dynasty stone ware. The present report includes 37 pages of text and 73 plates. Line drawings of graffiti from the recessed wall are given, one of which the author interprets as pr-nsw, but which looks to me much more like pr-cnb, a term which, I believe, does not in all cases refer to Gardiner's scribal institution but may occasionally have reference to a mortuary structure. In addition to the 3rd Dynasty material, objects from the late burials are discussed, and the texts of the amulets and funerary statuettes of the early 19th Dynasty lady Kaynefernefer are given in hierlyphic type. Two appendices conclude the report: a chemical analysis of plaster and mortar by Z. Iskander and a report on the plant remains found on top of the sarcophagus. Unfortunately this plant residue was so badly decomposed that it was impossible to determine the nature of the wood or bark, perhaps used as incense. Among the plates, aside from architectural views, are a series devoted to stone vessels and a sample of the demotic papyri, which appears to date from the Persian period. These papyri, of which there are a considerable number, are being studied by Dr. Heckel, who was with the German Institute last year in Egypt. As a concluding note I may add that Prof. Vikentiev, whose views on the early dynasties are extremely individualistic, has expressed to me that he does not believe that the chamber designated as a burial chamber is indeed one nor that the empty sarcophagus, which has a unique sliding panel at one end, is a genuine sarcophagus. However, uniqueness at this period is hardly a valid criterion for rejecting Goneim's plausible explanation.

Zaky Y. Saad - Cashier #21 Supplément aux Annales: Ceiling Stelae in Second Dynasty Tombs from the Excavations at Helwan. Cairo 1957.

Zaky Saad's excavations of the second Dynasty tombs at Helwan have brought to light another phase in the development of the false door, which in its ultimate classic form appears to be the synthesis of two independent concepts. On the one hand we can trace the history of the recessed door, through which the deceased was believed to pass in order to receive the offerings placed at its foot, from the elaborately niched façades of the mud-brick mastabas of the early dynasties, imitating wood and mat panelling with drum of rolled-up matting; then the singling out of one of these niches as a cult place, as at Tarkhan; later the early Khabausokar primitive false door, and finally the classic false door incorporating the offering-table scene above the lintel. With the material presented in this volume, consisting of the description of 25 stone plaques with the offering-table scene, we are able to trace some of the history of this element, the last incorporated into the make-up of the classic false door. The earliest appearance of the scene of the deceased seated before a table of offerings is on amuletic cylinder seals of the first Dynasty. It was a surprise to find this motif in a most unexpected location at Helwan, namely on a stone slab installed face downwards in the ceiling of the tomb chamber at the bottom of a shaft. Previously this scene had been thought to be associated with the daily offering ritual, especially in view of the fact that in a number of the 4th Dynasty Giza mastabas the offering-table scene on a limestone slab was the only element present at the offering place in the cult room. With the new data this scene in its origin is connected solely with the dead man and apparently was only secondarily introduced into the cult chamber. The author does not attempt to solve the problem, although Drioton in the introduction goes into a short discussion of the development. Of the 25 stelae, three belong to royal children, the rest to royal or funerary priests, scribes, and a chief sculptor. In addition Saad gives data concerning other objects from these tombs and describes such tombs as having been plundered of their stelae. Drioton suggests that these stelae can be arranged chronologically on the basis of the quantities of offerings designated - from those giving no specific number, then tens of offerings up to thousands of offerings. Five new hieroglyphs are given in large scale drawing.

Labib Habachi - Cahier #22 Supplément aux Annales: Tell Basta, Cairo, 1957.

For ten years this report of the excavations made by Labib Habachi at Tell Basta during 1937 and 1943-44 has awaited publication. In the first section the author discusses his discovery of the remains of the temple of Pepy I, located west of the Great Temple of Bastet. Although the architectural finds were confined to a decorated doorway, columns, and the foundations of walls, this additional information is valuable, since we know of only one other non-funerary Old Kingdom temple, that of Kasr el-Sagha. Pepy's temple was surrounded by a large temenos, and Habachi expresses his belief in the possible origin of the hieroglyph bwt from a temple and enclosure layout similar to that at Bubastis, where the temple is not located at the center of the temenos but towards one side. This temple was called "the ka-mansion of Pepi in Bubastis," and as in other examples from such ka-mansions of kings, the pharaoh is represented receiving blessings from the gods rather than making offerings to the gods. The absence of the king's prenomen in the inscriptions suggests a date early in Pepy's reign.

Another section of the book treats the reclearing and reexamination of the temples already excavated by Naville; the Miros temple of Osorkon II and the Great Temple, including Osorkon II's Festival Hall and Nectanebo II's structure, which Habachi claims is not a hall but a multi-chambered temple. In connection with the temple architecture there is a section on the evolution of papyrus-bud columns from the Old Kingdom to the Empire.

Outside the temple area finds were made of several statues dating from the time of Amenhotep III, the 19th Dynasty, and the Saite period. A family tomb of Hori I, viceroy of Kush at the time of Sethnakht-Ramses III is included.

Lastly Habachi turns to the blocks which have been brought to Bubastis from other sites because of insufficient quantity of building material in the Delta and stones removed from Bubastis to other locations, principally Bilbeis. Since the Bilbeis blocks clearly derive from Bubastis, Habachi feels certain that it was only relatively late that Bilbeis became of any significant religious importance.

Among his conclusions Labib Habachi emphasizes the preeminent position occupied by Bastet as chief deity at Bubastis from the Old Kingdom onwards.

The second fascicule of Tome LIV of the Annales du Service des Antiquités de l'Égypte (1957) contains the following:

1. Gérard Godron - "Notes d'Épigraphie Thinite." Includes an ancient example of the word drit, "kite", in feminine name (Petrie: Roy. Tombs II, pl. 27, no. 133 and pl. 30A); an interpretation of the disposition of the scenes suggested by Schott (Hieroglyphen, pl. 7, fig. 12) for the Narmer mace-head, the god being considered as the spectator of the whole scene; rejection of the reading m̄sn, "harpooner", for Petrie: Roy. Tombs II, pl. 7, n.5, which is probably the name of a statue; and a paleography of the ib heart-sign for the first two dynasties.
2. Herbert Senk - "Zur Darstellung der Sturmleiter in der Belagerungszene des Kaemhesit." Believes that a ladder with wheels is actually represented because of the activity of the two men at the base of the ladder who seem to be holding it so that it will not slip. Writer denies that there is perspective, for there is not foreshortening of the axle and the wheels are completely round.
3. H. Hickmann - "La Scène Musicale d'une Tombe de la VIe Dynastie à Guizeh (Idou)." Discusses different techniques in ancient harp playing with modern analogies.
4. Kjelmar Larsen - "On a Detail of the Naqada Plant." Confirms Täckholms' identification of the plant frequently depicted on Naqada pottery as Musa Ensete

5. Frances Abd el Melek Gattas - "Découverte d'un Ensemble Souterrain Copte dans de Désert d'Esné." A short report on what is believed to be a tomb with small chapel.
6. E. Jelinková-Reymond - "Quelques Recherches sur les Réformes d'Amasis." Studying certain contemporary biographical inscriptions, principally the naophorous statue of Pet-tōw-Neith (Louvre A 93), of which the text is given, the writer concludes that administrative difficulties in the provinces and irregularities in the temple administration at the end of Apries' reign forced Amasis to make certain exceptional ordinances.
7. Mustafa el-Amir - "Professor S. R. K. Glanville." Necrology
8. V. Vikentiev - "Nary-Ba-Thai-Maba." Thus the name of Narmer is to read according to Vikentiev's interpretation of Emery - Tomb of Hemaka, pl. xvii-xviii, A.
9. Dr. Mohamad Hammad - "Ueber die Entdeckung von 4 Blöcken, die neues Licht auf eine wichtige Epoche der Armarnakunst werfen." Four Akhnaton blocks from the foundation of the Pinedjem statue at Karnak, found placed as though to preserve the surfaces: scene of desert edge, battle-game (?), chariot and tree, layout of house. Presumably from the Karnak Aton temple.
10. Herbert Ricke - "Zweiter Grabungsbericht über das Sonnenheiligtum des Königs Userkaf bei Abusir." Report of the 1955-56 season. There was no solar bark south of the sanctuary. Four building periods discernible. Possibly there were two shrines on either side of the altar, the southern one for Hathor and the northern for Bastet. Speculation concerning the nature of the temple remains found north of the causeway near the edge of the valley. Apparently a 6th Dynasty cemetery of tombs of ordinary persons extends from the causeway south to the valley temples of the Abusir pyramids. Those uncovered by the causeway consisted of several pits under one mastaba; no evidence of mummification or coffins.
11. Ibrahim Harari - "La Fondation Cultuelle de N.K. Wi. Ankh [Ny-Ka-Ankh?] à Tehneh - Notes sur l'organisation cultuelle dans l'ancien empire égyptien." A republication of the text from the tomb with translation and discussion.
12. Louis-A. Christophe - "Les Divinités du Papyrus Harris I et leurs Épithètes." A listing and indexing of the gods and their titles similar to his work on the deities in the Hypostyle Hall.

E. F. W.

Other Archaeological News

The University of Pisa is excavating the late 18th dynasty temple at Soleb, situated between the second and third cataract in the Sudan. The excavator is Clément Robichon, the epigrapher, Jozef Janssen, and the photographer, Mme. M. Schiff-Giorgini, who is financing the expedition.

Two members of the Center, Dr. Richard Ettinghausen and Dr. Myron Bement Smith, have been invited to attend an international conference on Islamic Culture at the University of the Panjab. Following the conference, Dr. Ettinghausen will lecture at that University. On his way home, Dr. Smith will lecture at Universities in India, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, and Egypt.

Publications by Members of the Center

Aldred, Cyril. Review of Arpag Mekhitarian, Egyptian Painting, Geneva, Editions Skira, 1954, in Bibliotheca Orientalis, XIV, No. 1, Jan., 1957. In this clear and readable review of an excellent book, Mr. Aldred, one of our ablest historians of art, makes a real contribution to the subject of ancient Egyptian painting.

Aldred, Cyril. Review of Five Years of Collecting Egyptian Art, 1951-1956. Catalogue of an Exhibition Held at The Brooklyn Museum 11 December, 1956 to 17 March, 1957, The Brooklyn Museum, 1956 in the American Journal of Archaeology, 1957. Though the reviewer differs in some points on the opinions expressed in this catalogue, he is on the whole lavish in his praise of the accomplishment of The Brooklyn Museum in acquiring so many fine objects in what is avowedly a "lean" market. He finds it particularly gratifying that, along with the major objects purchased, small, often fragmentary, objects are described and illustrated, "which nearly all have something to recommend them, even to the layman...Many are unique, and others widen the horizons of Egyptology."

Allen, Edwin Brown. "Applied Mathematics in Ancient Egypt," reprinted from Consulting Engineer, August, 1957. In this interesting and readable article, Professor Brown, the head of the Department of Mathematics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, summarizes what the ancient Egyptians knew of mathematical processes. This leads to the conclusion that Egyptian mathematics was largely practical, that "there are very few evidences of abstract mathematics, of general rules, or of explicit statement of a general formula. This abstract thinking had to await the philosophical mind of the Greek. The Egyptian could measure a particular triangular field, but he could not comprehend the idea of 'any triangle.'"

Anthes, Rudolf. "Memphis (Mit Rahineh) in 1956," in University Museum Bulletin, V. 21, No. 2, June, 1957. This article describes the work of the University of Pennsylvania at a little known site. This included a sanctuary of Ptah, constructed in the time of Ramses II for "the daily early morning service for the cult figure of the god by the king or his substitute, the priest, with the offering of flowers and incense, unguent and cloth." The temple was also used as a repository for votive objects. This small temple is not to be confused with the great temple of Ptah, but was probably attached to a royal palace. Among significant finds were very handsome slabs from the tomb of Iyry (c. 1250), reused in the construction of a later tomb.

Cooney, John D. "Souvenirs of a Great Egyptian," in The Brooklyn Museum Bulletin, V. XVIII, No. 4, Summer, 1957. In an excellent piece of detective work, Mr. Cooney discovers that a head in the Chicago Natural History Museum belongs to a fragmentary torso of Montuemhat in the Brooklyn Museum. This bit of torso, which is inscribed with the name and titles of the famous Vizier of the 25th dynasty, was evidently part of a group statue.

Ettinghausen, Richard. "Early Realism in Islamic Art," in Studi Orientalistici in onore di Giorgio Levi Della Vida, V. I, Rome, 1956. Though the Muslim world shows a predilection for abstract design, which shows itself also in figural art, it betrays also a tendency toward realism, which betrays itself in choice of subject matter or in well-observed movements or gestures. "There still remains the task for an historian to see how this realistic development -- a kind of revival of the realism current in Ancient Egyptian and Hellenistic art -- can be explained and can be placed in a historical context. A more specific task would be for the literary historian to see whether this new tendency in the figural arts can be correlated with similar features in Arabic literature, especially in Egypt."

Fischer, Henry George. "A Daughter of the Overlords of Upper Egypt in the First Intermediate Period," in the Journal of the American Oriental Society, v. 76, no. 2, April-June, 1956, p. 99-110. We have here a discussion of three interesting feminine titles and epithets, which occur on a wooden coffin in the possession of Mr. Leonard Epstein of New York, which probably comes from the cemetery of Naga ed-Der. The article also contains valuable commentary on the palaeography of the First Intermediate Period.

Fischer, Henry George. "Further Remarks on the Prostrate Kings," in University Museum Bulletin, v. 21, no. 2, June, 1957. In this brief added note to an article in the Bulletin of March, 1956, the author describes a prostrate king (Tuthmosis III) depicted on the handle of a censer carried by a priest in a procession on the walls of Karnak. The two articles (which should be read in conjunction) are interesting comments on the rôle of the king in temple ritual.

Fischer, Henry George. "A God and a General of the Oasis on a Stela of the Late Middle Kingdom," in Journal of Near Eastern Studies, v. XVI, no. 4, October, 1957, p. 223-235. This rather crudely worked stela in the University of Pennsylvania Museum is of interest as adding to our meagre knowledge of the administration of the Egyptian oases down to the end of the Middle Kingdom, of which Dr. Fischer gives an excellent summary, and of the god Igay, "Lord of the Oasis," whose name is rarely mentioned in texts and "whose connection with the oasis has apparently never been recognized as such in any of the works on Egyptian religion."

Hayes, William C. Review of Die altägyptischen Scherbenbilder (Bildosteck) der Deutschen Museen und Sammlungen, by Emma Brunner-Traut. Wiesbaden, Franz Steiner Verlag, 1956, in the American Journal of Archaeology, p. 291-292.

"Die altägyptischen Scherbenbilder is a book which will certainly take its place among the standard works on Egyptian drawing and painting. One of the most complete and richly documented treatments of its subject yet produced, it can hardly fail to be a welcome addition to the library of the Egyptologist and art historian, and, one ventures to think, a source of considerable interest to the creative artist."

Porada, Edith. Review of Henri Frankfort, The Birth of Civilization in the Near East, Bloomington, 1951, and The Art and Architecture of the Ancient Orient (The Pelican History of Art), Baltimore, 1955 in The Art Bulletin, 1957. In the first book, "Frankfort concentrated on the social and political innovations in Egypt and Mesopotamia in the latter part of the fourth and in the third millennium, the time at which civilization had emerged in these two cultural centers. He conceived of each of these civilizations as having a certain 'cultural style' which 'shapes its political and judicial institutions, its art as well as its literature, its religion as well as its morals.'" Dr. Porada devotes much more space (as it deserves) to the second of Dr. Frankfort's books, giving it a careful and discriminating review. The "work is and will long remain a powerful influence in scholarship as much for the problems it sets and solves as for the vigorous, rich, and lively mind that informs it."

Simpson, William Kelly. "A Running of the Apis in the Reign of 'Aha and Passages in Manetho and Aelian," in Orientalia, v. 26, fasc. 2, 1957, p. 139-142. An important text on a bowl in the Michailides Collection dates the cult of the Apis bull to an earlier period than has as yet been known, and thus lends support to those who believe the cult to have already existed in prehistoric times.

While the following publications of the textile Museum in Washington are not by members of the Center, they should prove of value to those interested in the Islamic art of Egypt:

Kühnel, Ernst. Cairene Rugs and Others Technically Related, 15th-17th Century. Technical analysis by Louisa Bellinger, Washington, 1957.

Kühnel, Ernst. Catalogue of Dated Tiraz Fabric, Umayyad, Abbasid, Fatimid. Technical analysis by Louisa Bellinger, Washington, 1952.

ANNUAL MEETING

November 19, 1957

The Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt took place in the Egyptian Department of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, on November 19, 1957, with 118 persons present in person or represented by proxy. Mr. Edward W. Forbes, President of the Center presided.

The Meeting convened at 2:40 P.M. The minutes of the Annual Meeting of November 20, 1956, were presented, and it was voted to accept them without reading.

The following reports were then submitted to the Meeting and approved by the Members:

Report of the TreasurerSUMMARY OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

October 1, 1956 through September 30, 1957

Boston Account (U. S. Dollars)

Balance in Bank, September 30, 1956.....	\$1,061.43	\$ 1,061.43
Received as Dues.....	1,566.00	
Dividend Income.....	40.00	\$ 1,606.00
Total.....		\$ 2,667.43

Expenses Paid, per details attached:

Honorarium Director in Egypt.....	\$ 100.00	
Honorarium Executive Secretary.....	549.00	
Honorarium Assistant Treasurer.....	150.00	
Newsletter.....	194.79	
Stationery, Office Supplies & Incidental Expenses	259.55	
Postage, Telephone & Petty Cash.....	22.43	
Expenses of Meeting & Filing Fee (Including Proxies)	37.23	
Bank Charges.....	2.55	
Total Expenses.....	\$1,315.55	\$ 1,315.55

Balance in Bank, September 30, 1957 (Not including Bollingen Grant).... \$ 1,351.88

BOLLINGEN GRANT

Bollingen Foundation Grant.....	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Paid to Director in Egypt.....	2,000.00	2,000.00
Bollingen Foundation Balance, September 30, 1957.....		\$ 8,000.00
Balance in Bank, September 30, 1957 (Including Bollingen Grant).....		\$ 9,351.88

In addition to the above, an anonymous gift of \$150.00 was made to the Center by a member from his account in Cairo, to be applied to the stipend of fifty dollars monthly paid to the Representative of the Center in Egypt during the season 1956-1957. A further gift was made by the same donor for repairs on the Center's jeep.

Mr. William Jackson
Mr. George Pearce Nichols
Mr. Frederick Goudert

Report of the Membership Secretary

For the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1957

During the last year we lost four members due to death, eight who resigned, and fifteen who permitted their membership to lapse. Eight new members were admitted. This is a net loss of nineteen in membership.

Our present total of 247 members is divided as follows:

Regular Members	184
Contributing Members	42
Sustaining Members	10
Associates	5
Fellow	-
Life Members	6

Richard A. Parker
Membership Secretary

The comment was made that the loss in membership recorded above could, in part, be accounted for by the shifting of personnel in the United States Embassy and Consulate in Cairo: while some of the members of the Center in Egypt have retained their interest after going to new posts, many have allowed their memberships to lapse upon quitting. Egypt.

Report of the Executive Secretary

In addition to the usual routine work of the Center, the Executive Secretary has endeavored to make some contacts with the press, especially the scholarly press. Announcements of the fellowships were sent to leading newspapers and also to scholarly publications, together with the notice that applications for fellowships must be in by March first of the coming year. The News Bulletin of the Institute for International Education, the Bulletin of the Archaeological Institute of America, and Archaeology have published statements about the Center and its fellowships, and the American Journal of Archaeology will run a notice about the Center on the back cover of its next issue.

As a result of all this, the Executive Secretary has received requests for information concerning the fellowships; and at least two new members have been acquired in consequence of the notice in Archaeology. Both members expressed themselves as being particularly interested in the Newsletters.

The Executive Secretary has prepared, with the approval of the Executive Committee, a brief printed statement of the purpose and aims of the Center, to be used in interesting prospective members.

Elizabeth Riefstahl
Executive Secretary

Following the Report of the President, which appears at the beginning of this Newsletter, he made the following announcement, after which the Meeting observed a minute of silence:

It is my sad duty to report the loss by death of the following members of the Center:

Mrs. Henrietta Crockett
Mr. William Emerson
Mr. George Pierce Metcalf
Mr. Frederick Coudert

Election of Officers

The following slate of officers, drawn up by the Executive Committee in accordance with the By-Laws, was presented to the Meeting, which unanimously authorized the Executive Secretary to cast one ballot for their election:

Edward W. Forbes	President
William Phillips	Vice-Presidents
Frederick Foster	
Robert Woods Bliss	
John A. Wilson	
Dows Dunham	Treasurer
Mary B. Cairns	Assistant Treasurer
Richard A. Parker	Membership Secretary
Elizabeth Riefstahl	Executive Secretary

Election of Trustees

The Term of the following Trustees has expired:

Carleton S. Coon
 Edward W. Forbes
 Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith
 William Stevenson Smith
 Richard A. Parker

It was proposed to offer for re-election the following:

Edward W. Forbes
 Richard A. Parker
 Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith
 William Stevenson Smith

It was also proposed to fill the vacancies on the Board of Trustees with the following:

John Dimick
 John Goelet

The Meeting unanimously endorsed the re-election of the first group of Trustees and the election of the new members of the Board and authorized the Executive Secretary to cast one ballot for their election.

Election of the Executive Committee

It was proposed that the Executive Committee stand as constituted, and the Executive Secretary was authorized to cast one ballot for the re-election of its members:

Edward W. Forbes, Chairman
 Dows Dunham
 Frederick Foster
 Richard A. Parker
 William Phillips
 Ashton Sanborn
 Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith

Mr. Lauriston Ward, commenting on the President's Report, stressed that the value of the Center for international relations was a potent one and should be stressed in approaching individuals or foundations for support. It was suggested that a new approach be made to the Ford Foundation, emphasizing the role of the Center in promoting goodwill in the Middle East.

It was further suggested that, since the Fulbright fellowships were no longer available in Egypt, other fellowships and grants made through the United States Department of State should be investigated. Mr. Phillips very kindly volunteered to discuss with the State Department any possibility of aid for the Center through fellowships or otherwise.

Mr. Ward suggested that we try to establish liaison with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard College, with which we have many interests in common.

It was further suggested that representatives of the Center be chosen to get into contact with Departments concerned with Middle Eastern Studies in other institutions, and Professor Fischer has undertaken to work at Yale University with a view to awakening interest and gaining new members for our organization.

Professor Allen suggested that someone look into the Foundations incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a view to approaching them for aid to the Center in the form of fellowships or of endowment or annual contribution. Mr. Foster said he would look into the matter.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Trustees Meeting

At the Trustees Meeting which followed immediately upon the adjournment of the Annual Meeting, the following Trustees were present: Mr. Forbes, Mr. Dunham, Prof. Allen, Dr. Ettinghausen, Mr. Foster, Dr. Fischer, Dr. William Stevenson Smith, Mrs. Oric Bates; the remaining Trustees were represented by proxy.

The following budget, submitted by the Treasurer, was approved.

BUDGET - 1957-1958

Honorarium, Director in Egypt	\$ 450.00
Honorarium, Executive Secretary	600.00
Honorarium, Assistant Treasurer	180.00
Newsletters	500.00
General Expenses (Office Supplies, Printing, Stationery, etc.)	300.00
Postage	50.00
Filing Fee	2.00
	<u>\$2,082.00</u>

The discussion continued along the lines of the suggestions offered at the General Meeting and it was agreed that the Trustees be urged to bend their efforts to obtaining substantial financial support for the Center and in assisting with a drive for new memberships.